



March 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our district policy regarding admission to kindergarten and first grade follows:

**Admission to Kindergarten:** The Board of Education, in compliance with the requirements of the State of Illinois, will maintain kindergarten for the instruction of all children who are residents of the District and who have reached the age of five (5) years on or before September 1 of the year of school enrollment. Through the Acceleration Act (PA I 00-0421), some students may be appropriate for early entrance to kindergarten. (IPSD Board Policy 6:135)

In order to consider early entrance to kindergarten, a student must be 5 years old by October 31" of the kindergarten year. Parents must provide documentation that the student has attended a preschool program for at least a year taught by a highly qualified teacher. Indian Prairie School District 204 requires a letter from the preschool indicating the student is ready for kindergarten and has demonstrated good attendance. In addition to the letter, a progress report from the preschool which indicates kindergarten readiness when compared to the Illinois Early Learning & Developmental Standards (IELDS) is also required. Students may be assessed to determine appropriateness of early entrance to kindergarten. Early entrance is offered through the Acceleration Act therefore only students who demonstrate accelerated skills will be eligible. Parents interested in enrolling their child early in kindergarten should notify the school of the intent to apply between March 1 and May 1.

**Admission to First Grade:** A child entering first grade must be 6 years of age on or before September 1 of that school term. Based upon an assessment of the child's readiness, a child will be allowed to attend first grade if he or she attended a non-public preschool, continued his or her education at that school through kindergarten, was taught in kindergarten by an appropriately certified teacher, and will be 6 years old on or before December 31. (IPSD Board Policy 7:50)

In order to approve early entrance to first grade (entrance prior to age six), IPSD 204 requires an official letter from the school where your child attends kindergarten. This letter must state that your child has successfully completed kindergarten, demonstrated good attendance and is ready to enter first grade. In addition to the letter, a progress report from the school is also required. The progress report must review your child's progress in the following areas: language arts, mathematics, social emotional development, and fine motor development.

Please call the school your child will attend, and they will send you the form that you will complete and how to share your documents. These documents will be reviewed by the principal and school team. The school will determine what additional assessment is required. If these documents are not on file in the school office, admission to kindergarten or first grade will be based upon age.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura B. Rosenblum".

Laura Rosenblum  
Assistant Superintendent, Elementary  
Indian Prairie School District 204